

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/557,991

Applicant(s)

WEE ET AL

Examiner

Art Unit

Shawn S. An

2613

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 1/24/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 11-15 and 17-31.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 25 April 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some\*   c) ☐ None   of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 1/24/05, 6/20/05
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An Examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to Applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

**A)** Please cancel claim 16.

**B)** Please amend (add) claims 11, 15, and 31 as follows:

11. (Currently Amended) A method of processing a bitstream representing a compressed image frame sequence, said method comprising:

receiving, for each of multiple frames, information identifying a subset of image slices for the frame, the subsets being independently encoded from other image slices not in the subsets such that any motion vectors necessarily point to an identified subset of another frame,

and wherein receiving information includes distinguishing the subset from a variable number of other image slices not associated with the subset and the information includes for each frame a map identifying each independently encoded subset for the frame, and the relative position of image slices in each subset with respect to other slices in the frame;

decoding the subsets;

selectively editing decoded data;

encoding new image slices from decoded data and edited data; and

inserting the new image slices into the bitstream, and generating a representative output signal.

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15. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 11, wherein the information identifies image slices associated with an object that varies in frame position across the multiple frames and ~~wherein receiving information includes distinguishing the subset from a variable number of other image slices not associated with the subset.~~

31. (New) A method of processing a bitstream representing a compressed image frame sequence, said method comprising:

receiving, for each of multiple frames, information identifying a subset of image slices for the frame, the subsets being independently encoded from other image slices not in the subsets such that any motion vectors necessarily point to an identified subset of another frame;

decoding the subsets;

selectively editing decoded data;

encoding new image slices from decoded data and edited data;

inserting the new image slices into the bitstream, and generating a representative output signal;


adjusting a bitstream parameter to reflect newly inserted slice data; and

inserting new information identifying slices of the subset into a frame header of the output signal.

**REMARKS:**

Claim 16 has been canceled, and claims 11, 15, and 31 have been amended as discussed above, as authorized by Applicants' attorney, Ashok Mannava (45,301) on June 22, 2005.

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to *Shawn S. An* whose telephone number is 571-272-7324.

  
**SHAWN AN**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**  
6/22/05

**REASONS for ALLOWANCE**

1. Claims 11-15, 17-20, and 31 are allowed after entering the Examiner's Amendment as discussed in the EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT section.
2. Claims 21-30 are allowed as having the allowable subject matter as discussed in the last Office action as filed on 10/22/04.

Any comments considered necessary by Applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

***Conclusion***

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to *Shawn S. An* whose telephone number is 571-272-7324.
4. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.
5. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



**SHAWN AN  
PRIMARY EXAMINER**

6/22/05